Illegal telephone exchanges

897. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that an illegal telephone exchange using statellite technology has been found in Mumbai as per the press reports of the Lokmat dated the 24th October and that a foreign national of Israel origin has also been identified for this crime and Interpol has been requested to track down this Israeli national; and

(b) if so, what measures Government have adopted to avoid recurrence of such incidents all over the country?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRIMATI SUMITRA MAHAJAN): (a) Yes, Sir. The accused has been arrested by Mumbai Police on 3.11.2002.

(b) Government takes suitable action including raids with the help of CBI/Police for stopping illegal routing of traffic. Important preventive measures taken by Government are:—

(i) Dedicated CBI cells have been created in four metros exclusively for detecting and checking telecom-related frauds.

(ii) A close coordination between service providers and investigating agencies is maintained to book the offenders.

(iii) Checks in telephone exchanges have been intensified.

MTNL has also taken various preventive measures which are as under:—

(i) The field units are inspecting the VSATs (Very Small Aperture Terminals) for checking their legality.

(ii) The premises where ISDN (integrated Service Digital Network-Basic Rate Access) lines and bulk lines are installed are being inspected.The long duration threshold monitoring is being carried out for detecting the misuse of ISDN (Basic Rate Access).

(iii) ISP (Internet Service Provider) set up are being inspected periodically for their legal use. Outgoing dial facility is not given

on the DELs (Direct Exchange Lines)/Primary Rate Interface/ 2 Mbps R2 type signaling connected to ISP set up.

(iv) In case of suspicion, the incoming and outgoing local calls are put up under observation for detecting and confirming illegal traffic.

(v) 10 Digit CLI (Calling Line Identification) has been implemented through out MTNL, Mumbai network in order to detect misuse of Public Switched Telecom Network (PSTN) lines for carrying international traffic. Cases of local CLI on incoming international calls are raided immediately.

(vi) Set of lines making more than 2500 local calls in a fortnight are identified using Billing computers and the meter reading of such identified numbers are analysed to find out local calls made from a set of numbers.

(vii) The Fraud Managed & Control Centre proposed to be commissioned in MTNL Delhi and Mumbai by 28.2.2003 wherein fraud investigators will monitor the calls.

Mobile Postmen

898. SHRIMATI VANGAGEETHA: DR.T.SUBBARAMI REDDY: SHRI SANTOSH BAGRODIA: SHRI PARMESHWAR KUMAR AGARWALLA: SHRI YADLAPATI VENKAT RAO:

Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are considering to have Mobile Postmen to connect rural India;

(b) if so, whether any concete programme has been worked out in this regard;

(c) whether the move is to revamp the postal department and increase tele-density in the country;

(d) if so, whether under the proposal, postmen in the rural and semi-urban areas would double up;